

**University of Massachusetts Amherst  
Office of the Faculty Senate  
Rules Committee Meeting  
April 10, 2013  
8:15am – 10:00am**

**Minutes**

***Present:*** Bartolomeo (Chair), Peterson, Butterfield, Whitehead, Adrion, Brewer (until 9am), May

***Guests:*** Lacey, Page, Hugus, Peelle, Bogartz, Altstadt

**Agenda Item:** Status of the Interim Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football, dated December 11, 2012, with related motions from the Athletic Council.

**1) Discussion of:**

- (a) the Athletic Council resolution of Feb. 20, 2013, regarding “disregard for university and Faculty Senate governance procedures;” and
- (b) the addendum voted on March 1, 2013, requesting “that the Rules Committee withdraw the charge for response to the Interim Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football until the Ad Hoc Committee has had the opportunity to submit a revised interim report.”

It was pointed out that these criticisms could have been brought up on the floor of the Faculty Senate at its December meeting, where Ad hoc Committee co-chairs Page and Lacey presented the interim report. These criticisms could also have been made in a meeting of the ACFBS for deliberation before being presented to the Rules Committee. It was pointed out that the Interim Report was required by the Faculty Senate motion which created the ACFBS and that the Faculty Senate merely discussed the report on Dec. 11, 2012; no formal action was taken on it (it was not “received” nor was it “adopted” by a vote).

It was pointed out that dissatisfied members of the Athletic Council think that “the Rules” have been violated because the ACFBS submitted its interim report without having taken a vote. In response, the question was raised as to why, at the next meetings of the ACFBS, one of the Athletic Council members of the ACFBS did not bring up this issue and request a review, reconsideration or vote on the Interim Report?

Faculty Senate rules and general practice create an expectation that all members of councils, committees, and ad hoc committees will have an opportunity to review and comment on drafts of documents being submitted to the Senate, but there is considerable variation with respect to the formality with which they operate. In light of the particular circumstances of the ACFBS, there was agreement that it should in the future adopt the text of any report to be submitted to the full Faculty Senate by a formal vote.

It was also noted that the issue of email notification has been resolved through the implementation of standardized email lists for each council and committee maintained by the office of the Faculty Senate.

At this point, the guests left the meeting.

**2) By unanimous vote (6-0-0), the Rules Committee adopted the following motion:**

**“To refer the Interim Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football back to the Ad Hoc Committee on FBS Football for any further action, including a vote.”**

**Respectfully submitted,  
Ernie May, Scribe pro tem**